

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE OF OFFICER JASON SHUPING

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 18, 2020

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a hero—Concord Police Department Officer Jason Shuping.

On the night of December 16, 2020, Officer Shuping was among the first law enforcement officers on the scene to respond to an attempted carjacking.

The suspect opened fire, striking Officer Shuping and another first responder—Officer Kaleb Robinson.

Though wounded, Officer Robinson, aged 23-years-old, stood guard over his fellow officer as other officers arrived on the scene and engaged the gunman. Robinson was rushed to the hospital and is expected to make a full recovery.

Tragically, Officer Shuping lost his life, succumbing to the gunshot wound he sustained.

Officer Shuping was just 25-years-old and had been with the Concord Police Department for 18 months.

Prior to joining the department, Officer Shuping graduated from UNC Pembroke and East Rowan High School. He was an athlete in both high school and college, as well as a North Carolina scholar graduate.

Officer Shuping not only leaves behind his loving family, but his entire Concord Police Department Family led by Chief Gary Gacek—an exceptional leader and my friend.

Today, I urge my colleagues to join me in praying for the family of fallen Officer Shuping, as well as for healing for Officer Robinson and the entire Concord Police Department community.

We will never forget the sacrifice of Officer Shuping and all those who put their lives on the line every day to keep our communities safe, as well as the sacrifice of their families.

At this time, I ask my colleagues to join me to honor the life of Officer Shuping.

HONORING PAT RUTHERFORD AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 18, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Pat Rutherford, an extraordinary seamstress and community volunteer, as our Iowan of the Week. Since March of this year, Pat has dedicated the majority of her time to sewing thousands of cloth face masks she gives away for free so Iowans can better protect themselves from COVID-19. This volunteer effort has now thoroughly become part of her daily life. Her dedication has not only in-

spired others to join in on the mission, but has also generated thousands of dollars in donations to the local food bank at a time when families are experiencing greater food insecurity.

After spotting a woman in the Atlanta airport holding a tissue to her face because she didn't have a proper mask, Pat decided no one should have to resort to such measures during a global pandemic. She returned home and stayed busy during her precautionary quarantine by sewing high-quality fabric face masks people could wash and reuse. Pat put up a public Facebook page where community members could place orders for the free masks, and hundreds of requests came in the first day. It's been nine months since then, and the orders haven't slowed.

For months at the beginning of her effort, Pat was purchasing all the necessary mask supplies and sewing equipment from her own funds and was doing her best to keep up with orders as a solo volunteer. She'd spend hours sewing in the basement each day and place completed masks on her front porch, publicly urging those without a good face covering to come to her home and take what they needed. It was an expensive and time-consuming endeavor, but Pat was determined to keep going. Demand kept up and her efforts caught the attention of many, including Verlaine Faber and Pam West, who now spend several days each week in Pat's basement helping sew and keep up with new mask orders.

As more people learned about Pat's project, neighbors began donating supplies to help out. People would scour garage sales and deliver boxes of fabric to Pat's home. Several others volunteered to help Pat, Verlaine, and Pam finish masks by stitching on the elastic ear loops and sewing pleats. And people began to leave monetary donations when they'd pick up their mask orders. Rather than accept the donations herself, Pat began donating the money to the Grimes Storehouse, the local food bank. The effort has generated somewhere between \$7,000 and \$10,000 in donations for the Storehouse, including \$900 in Fareway grocery gift cards Pat just dropped off to be included in Christmas baskets for families in need.

Pat estimates she and her small band of fellow volunteers have sewn and donated more than 5,000 masks since March. They've filled free orders and made donations to local nursing homes, health care facilities, teachers, a reservation in South Dakota, and beyond. They linked up with MaskHelpers.org, a website used to connect individuals who need masks with those who make masks, in order to expand their reach. They might be taking a short break for the holidays, but they plan to get right back at it at the start of 2021.

Pat is very humble about her efforts this year. She's lost track of exactly how many masks she and her friends have made and of the exact dollar amount she's been able to donate to the Grimes food pantry. Those numbers aren't her focus, nor are the accolades she so rightly deserves for the huge impact

she's made the last several months. All she wants to do is help whoever she can however she can during this heightened time of need. She's very grateful for all the new people she's been able to connect with through the project. This story is a beautiful example of the leadership, altruism, and community spirit Iowans possess. I can't thank Pat Rutherford enough for all she's done to help the community of Grimes, and I couldn't be happier to name her as Iowan of the Week.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF BISHOP RANCE LEE ALLEN

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 18, 2020

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Bishop Rance Lee Allen. Bishop Allen passed unexpectedly from this life on October 31, 2020 leaving a widespread legacy.

Rance Lee Allen was born in Monroe, Michigan on November 19, 1948, the middle brother between Tom and Steve. His was born one of twelve children to Thomas and Emma Pearl. At an early age, he showed a passion for both music and preaching. By age nine he was travelling as a preacher in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana. After graduating from Monroe High School, he attended Monroe County Community College. On December 1, 1970, Rance Allen married Ellen Marie Groves.

In 1978, Rance Allen was ordained as an Elder of the Church of God in Christ, taking on a position as associate pastor at Monroe's Holiness Temple. In 1985 Toledo's New Bethel Church was founded and Bishop Allen was appointed its pastor, a position he held until his death.

In 1995, Bishop Allen received an Honorary Doctorate of Divinity from Urban Bible Institute of Detroit, Michigan. In 2011, Bishop Allen was consecrated as Jurisdictional Prelate of the Michigan Northwest Harvest Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction by the Church of God in Christ. In 2020, Bishop Allen earned a Doctorate of Theology Degree from Kingdom University International of Orlando, Florida.

An anointed gospel singer and musician, he founded the Rance Allen Group in 1967 with his brothers Tom and Steve, with Rance as the featured singer and also playing guitar and keyboard. Together for over 50 years, only the coronavirus pandemic temporarily stopped the group's performances. The Rance Allen Group released 21 albums, won six Stellar Awards, 3 Grammy Nominations, and have several other awards to the group's credit.

Well known in the music world, Rance Allen also performed with other music artists including CeCe Winans, Kirk Franklin, Snoop Dogg and Aretha Franklin. In 2015, Bishop Allen received the highest honor of his musical career by being invited and performing at the White House in a tribute to the gospel music tradition

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